

PHILIP JACKSON DARLINGTON, JR. PHOTOGRAPH TAKEN IN 1971

This issue of Psyche is dedicated to the memory of Philip J. Darlington, Jr., who died in his 80th year in Cambridge, Massachusetts, on December 16, 1983.

I first met Philip Darlington at a meeting of the Cambridge Entomological Club on January 8, 1924, held at the Bussey Institution. The event was a significant one for us. We were both undergraduates in the same class at Harvard College and for the next sixty years we remained close friends, as well as colleagues in the Museum of Comparative Zoology.

Philip was very active in the Club. He was secretary in 1931, vice-president in 1933 and 1940, and president in 1934, 1941, and 1946, and a member of the editorial board of Psyche for thirty years. His first talk at a Club meeting, in March, 1927, was an account of insect collecting at the Harvard Tropical Laboratory in Soledad, Cuba. At many other meetings over the years we enjoyed hearing about his research and his field trips in Australia, New Guinea, and Colombia, as well as on various Caribbean islands.

He was born in Philadelphia in 1904. After attending Exeter Academy in New Hampshire, he entered Harvard University, from which he received his A.B. degree in 1926 and his Ph.D. in 1931. The following year he was appointed Assistant Curator of Insects in the Museum of Comparative Zoology. In 1939 he became the H.C. Fall Curator of Coleoptera, and in 1952 he assumed the position of Curator of Insects, which he held until his appointment as Alexander Agassiz Professor of Zoology. He retired in 1971.

Although Philip was primarily an entomologist and chiefly concerned with Coleoptera, he had very broad interests in all aspects of natural history. His knowledge of plants and of all vertebrate groups was extraordinary. With such interests he was inevitably led into studies on evolutionary theory and especially zoogeography, on which he published several outstanding books and numerous technical papers.

Frank M. Carpenter, editor